

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 23-25, 38-40 and 42 are currently pending, with claims 1-7, 27-37 and 43-50 withdrawn from consideration as directed to a non-elected invention. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 23 and 39 are amended without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce the unamended claims in this or another application. New claim 51 is introduced upon entry of this amendment. Support for this new claim is found throughout the specification including, for example, at page 12, lines 7-10 and page 67, lines 20-22. Claims 23-25, 38-40, 42 and 50 are thus pending following entry of this amendment.

II. Interview

The undersigned thanks Examiner Christina Chan and Examiner Michail Belyavskiy for the very helpful and constructive telephonic interview held September 29, 2004. The undersigned and Applicants are very appreciative of the time Examiners Chan and Belyavskiy spent discussing this application. The interview involved a discussion of possible claim amendments. This paper incorporates amendments and remarks presented during the interview.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, First and Second Paragraph

Claims 23-25, 38-40 and 42 are rejected because the phrase "determining an interaction profile" is said to be indefinite and to lack support in the specification.

To provide greater clarity, claim 23 has been amended to delete process (c) and to state that the method involves detecting whether the PL protein interacts with the PDZ- domain polypeptide at each site of the array to determine which of the PDZ-domain polypeptides the PL protein interacts with, thereby obtaining the interaction profile for the PL protein. This amendment is consistent with, for example, the methods described at page 24, line 29 through page 27, which includes Table 2. For further clarity, the specification at page 25, line 21 has also

been amended as requested by the examiners to bring the language in the specification into conformity with the language used in the claims.

The language of claim 23 as amended itself provides a description of the term interaction profile. The claim and specification amendments are also consistent with MPEP2163.07, which states that "mere rephrasing of a passage does not constitute new matter" and that "the mere inclusion of dictionary or art recognized definitions known at the time of filing an application would not be considered new matter." Copies of the definition for "profile" from Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary (1997) and Steadman's Medical Dictionary (26th edition, 1995) are attached and provide definitions that are consistent with the original description of the methods in the specification (e.g., pages 24-27).

IV. Amendments to the Specification

The title and abstract have been amended to reflect more accurately the currently claimed invention. These amendments are supported throughout the specification, including pages 24-27 and pages 65 and 66. Thus, these amendments introduce no new matter.

V. Drawings

A set of formal drawings is enclosed. These drawings differ from the drawings that were filed in that they conform with the formal requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.84. These new drawings introduce no new matter.

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PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



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pro-fessed-ly \prə-'fesh-əd-lē, -'fest-lē\ *adv* 1: by profession or declaration: **AVOWEDLY** 2: with pretense: **ALLEGEDLY**
pro-fes-sion \prə-'fesh-ən\ *n* 1: the act of taking the vows of a religious community 2: an act of openly declaring or publicly claiming a belief, faith, or opinion: **PROTESTATION** 3: an avowed religious faith 4: a calling requiring specialized knowledge and often long and intensive academic preparation b: a principal calling, vocation, or employment c: the whole body of persons engaged in a calling
pro-fes-sion-al \prə-'fesh-nəl, -ən-\ *adj* 1 a: of, relating to, or characteristic of a profession b: engaged in one of the learned professions c: characterized by or conforming to the technical or ethical standards of a profession 2 a: participating for gain or livelihood in an activity or field of endeavor often engaged in by amateurs b: engaged in by persons receiving financial return <~ football> 3: following a line of conduct as though it were a profession <a ~ patriot> — **pro-fes-sion-al-ly** \-ē\ *adv*
professional *n*: one that engages in a pursuit or activity professionally
pro-fes-sion-al-ism \-iz-əm\ *n* 1: the conduct, aims, or qualities that characterize or mark a profession or a professional person 2: the following of a profession (as athletics) for gain or livelihood
pro-fes-sion-al-ize \-īz\ *vt* -ized; -izing: to give a professional character to — **pro-fes-sion-al-iza-tion** \-fesh-nə-lə-'zā-shən, -ən-\ *n*
pro-fes-sor \prə-'fes-ər\ *n* 1: one that professes, avows, or declares 2 a: a faculty member of the highest academic rank at an institution of higher education b: a teacher at a university, college, or sometimes secondary school c: one that teaches or professes special knowledge of an art, sport, or occupation requiring skill — **pro-fes-so-ri-al** \prə-'fə-'sör-ē-əl, -präf-, -sör-\ *adj* — **pro-fes-so-ri-al-ly** \-ē-əl\ *adv*
pro-fes-sor-ate \prə-'fes-ə-rət\ *n*: the office, term of office, or position of a professor
pro-fes-so-ri-ate \prə-'fə-'sör-ē-ət, -präf-, -sör-, -ē-ət\ or **pro-fes-so-ri-ate** \-ət, -āt\ *n* [modif. of F *professorat*, fr. *professeur* professor, fr. L *professor*, fr. *professus*] 1: the body of college and university teachers at an institution or in society 2: **PROFESSORSHIP**
pro-fes-sor-ship \prə-'fes-ər-'ship\ *n*: the office, duties, or position of an academic professor
pro-fer \prə-'fēr\ *vt* **proffered**; **pro-fer-ring** \-(ə-)rɪŋ\ [ME *proffer*, fr. AF *proffer*, fr. OF *proffrir*, fr. *por* forth (fr. L *pro-* + *offer* to offer — more at *PRO*): to present for acceptance: **TENDER, OFFER**
proffer *n*: **OFFER, SUGGESTION**
pro-ficien-cy \prə-'fīsh-ən-sē\ *n* 1: advancement in knowledge or skill: **PROGRESS** 2: the quality or state of being proficient
pro-ficient \prə-'fīsh-ənt\ *adj* [L *proficient*, *proficiens*, pp. of *proficere* to go forward, accomplish, fr. *pro-* forward + *facere* to make — more at *PRO, DO*]: well advanced in an art, occupation, or branch of knowledge — **pro-ficient-ly** *adv*
pro-ficient *adj*: having or manifesting the knowledge and experience needed for success in a trade or profession
pro-file \prə-'fīl\ *n* [It *profilo*, fr. *profilare* to draw in outline, fr. *pro-* forward (fr. L) + *filare* to spin, fr. LL — more at *FILE*] 1: a representation of something in outline: esp.: a human head or face represented or seen in a side view 2: an outline seen or represented in sharp relief: **CONTOUR** 3: a side or sectional elevation: as a: a drawing showing a vertical section of the ground b: a vertical section of a soil exposing its various zones or inclusions 4: a set of data often in graphic form portraying the significant features of something <a corporation's earnings ~>; esp.: a graph representing the extent to which an individual exhibits traits or abilities as determined by tests or ratings 5: a concise biographical sketch *syn* see **OUTLINE**
profile *vt* **pro-filed**; **pro-fil-ing** 1: to represent in profile or by a profile: produce (as by drawing, writing, or graphing) a profile of 2: to shape the outline of by passing a cutter around — **pro-filer** *n*
pro-fit \prə-'fīt\ *n*, often *attrib* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *proficetus* advance, profit, fr. *proficetus*, pp. of *proficere*] 1: a valuable return: **GAIN** 2: the excess of returns over expenditure in a transaction or series of transactions: esp.: the excess of the selling price of goods over their cost 3: net income usu. for a given period of time 4: the ratio of profit for a given year to the amount of capital invested or to the value of sales 5: the compensation accruing to entrepreneurs for the assumption of risk in business enterprise as distinguished from wages or rent — **pro-fit-less** \-ləs\ *adj*
profit *vi* 1: to be of service or advantage: **AVAIL** 2: to derive benefit: **GAIN** ~ *vt*: to be of service to: **BENEFIT**
profit-able \prə-'fīt-ə-bəl, -'fīt-ə-bəl\ *adj*: affording profits: yielding advantageous returns or results *syn* see **BENEFICIAL** *ant* **unprofitable** — **profit-abil-ity** \prə-'fīt-ə-bəl-ē-tē\ *n* — **profit-able-ness** \prə-'fīt-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **profit-ably** \-blē\ *adv*
profit and loss *n*: a summary account used at the end of an accounting period to collect the balances of the nominal accounts so that the net profit or loss may be shown
pro-fit-ter \prə-'fīt-tər\ *n*: one who makes what is considered an unreasonable profit esp. on the sale of essential goods during times of emergency — **profiteer** *vi*
profit sharing *n*: a system or process under which employees receive a part of the profits of an industrial or commercial enterprise
profit system *n*: **FREE ENTERPRISE**
pro-fli-ga-cy \prə-'fīl-gə-sē\ *n*: the quality or state of being profligate
pro-fli-gate \prə-'fīl-gət, -lā-gāt\ *adj* [L *profligatus*, fr. pp. of *profligare* to strike down, fr. *pro-* forward + *-fligare* (akin to *fligare* to strike); akin to Gk *thlibein* to squeeze] 1: completely given up to dissipation and licentiousness 2: wildly extravagant: **PRODIGAL** — **pro-fli-gate-ly** *adv*

profligate *n*: a person given to wildly extravagant and usu. grossly self-indulgent expenditure *syn* see **SPENDTHRIFT**
pro-flu-ent \prə-'flū-ənt, -'prōf- prə-'flū-\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *profluent*, *profluens*, pp. of *profluere* to flow forth, fr. *pro-* forth + *fluere* to flow — more at *PRO, FLUENT*]: flowing copiously or smoothly
pro-for-ma \('prō-'fōr-mə\ *adj* [L] 1: made or carried out in a perfunctory manner or as a formality 2: provided in advance to prescribe form or describe items <pro forma invoice>
pro-found \prə-'faund, prō-\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *profond* deep, fr. L *profundus*, fr. *pro-* before + *fundus* bottom — more at *PRO, BOTTOM*] 1 a: having intellectual depth and insight b: difficult to fathom or understand 2 a: extending far below the surface: coming from, reaching to, or situated at a depth: **DEEP-SEATED** <a ~ sigh> 3 a: characterized by intensity of feeling or quality b: all encompassing: **COMPLETE** <~ sleep> *syn* see **DEEP** *ant* **shallow** — **pro-found-ly** \-faund-(d)lē\ *adv* — **pro-found-ness** \-faund-(d)-nəs\ *n*
profound *n*, *archaic*: something that is very deep; *specif*: the depths of the sea
pro-fun-dit-y \prə-'fən-dət-ē\ *n*, *pl* -ties [ME *profundite*, fr. MF *profundité*, fr. L *profunditas*, *profunditas* depth, fr. *profundus*] 1 a: intellectual depth b: something profound or abstruse 2: the quality or state of being very profound or deep
pro-fuse \prə-'fju:s, prō-\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *profusus*, pp. of *profundere* to pour forth, fr. *pro-* forth + *fundere* to pour — more at *FOUND*] 1: pouring forth liberally: **EXTRAVAGANT** <~ in their thanks> 2: exhibiting great abundance: **BOUNTIFUL** <a ~ harvest> — **pro-fuse-ly** *adv* — **pro-fuse-ness** *n*
syn **PROFUSE, LAVISH, PRODIGAL, LUXURIANT, LUSH, EXUBERANT** *shared meaning element*: giving or given out in great abundance *ant* **spare, scanty, scant**
pro-fu-sion \-'fju-zhən\ *n* 1: lavish expenditure: **EXTRAVAGANCE** 2: the quality or state of being profuse 3: lavish display
prog \præg\ *vi* **progged**; **prog-ging** [origin unknown] *chiefly dial*: to search about; *esp*: **FORAGE**
prog *n*, *chiefly dial*: **FOOD, VICTUALS**
pro-ga-mete \prō-'gə-mēt, ('prō-'gam-ēt\ *n* [ISV]: a cell giving rise to gametes: a: **OOCYTE** b: **SPERMATOCYTE**
pro-gen-i-tor \prō-'jen-ət-ər, prā-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *progeniteur*, fr. L *progenitor*, fr. *progenitus*, pp. of *progenire* to beget, fr. *pro-* forth + *gignere* to beget — more at *KIN*] 1 a: an ancestor in the direct line: **FOREFATHER** b: a biologically ancestral form 2: **PRECURSOR, ORIGINATOR** <~s of socialist ideas — *Times Lit. Supp.*>
prog-e-ny \prə-'gə-nē\ *n*, *pl* -nies [ME *progenie*, fr. OF, fr. L *progenies*, fr. *progenire*] 1 a: **DESCENDANTS, CHILDREN** b: offspring of animals or plants 2: **OUTCOME, PRODUCT** 3: a body of followers, disciples, or successors
pro-ges-ta-tion-al \prō-'jes-tā-shənəl, -shən-\ *adj*: preceding pregnancy or gestation; *esp*: of, relating to, inducing, or constituting the modifications of the female mammalian system associated with ovulation and corpus luteum formation <~ hormones>
pro-ges-ter-one \prō-'jes-tə-rōn\ *n* [*progestin* + *sterol* + *-one*]: a steroid progestational hormone C₂₁H₃₀O₂
pro-ges-tin \-'jes-tən\ *n* [*pro-* + *gestation* + *-in*]: a progestational hormone; *esp*: **PROGESTERONE**
pro-ges-to-gen \-'tə-jən\ *n* [*progestational* + *-ogen* (as in *estrogen*)] 1: any of several progestational steroids (as *progesterone*) 2: any of several progestational steroids (as *progesterone*)
pro-glott-id \('prō-'glāt-əd\ *n* [NL *proglottis*] 1: a segment of a tapeworm containing both male and female reproductive organs — **pro-glott-id-ē-an** \prō-'glāt-ə-'dē-ən, -prō-'glāt-īd-ē-\ *adj*
pro-glott-tis \('prō-'glāt-tis\ *n*, *pl* -glott-tides \-'glāt-ə-'dēz\ [NL *proglottid*, *proglottis*, fr. Gk *proglottis* tip of the tongue, fr. *pro-* + *glōtta* tongue — more at *GLOSS*]: **PROGLOTTID**
prog-na-thic \præg-'nath-ik, -'nā-thik\ *adj*: **PROGNATHOUS**
prog-na-thism \præg-nə-'thiz-əm, præg-'nā-\ *n*: **prognathous condition**
prog-na-thous \-'thəs\ *adj*: having the jaws projecting beyond the upper part of the face
prog-no-sis \præg-'nō-səs\ *n*, *pl* -no-ses \-sēz\ [LL, fr. Gk *prognōsis*, lit., foreknowledge, fr. *prognōskein* to know before, fr. *pro-* + *gignōskein* to know — more at *KNOW*] 1: the prospect of recovery as anticipated from the usual course of disease or peculiarities of the case 2: **FORECAST, PROGNOSTICATION**
prog-nos-tic \præg-'nās-tik\ *n* [ME *pronostique*, fr. MF, fr. L *prognosticum*, fr. Gk *prognōstikon*, fr. neut. of *prognōstikos* foretelling, fr. *prognōskein*] 1: something that foretells: **PORTENT** 2: **PROGNOSTICATION, PROPHECY** — **prognostic** *adj*
prog-nos-ti-cate \præg-'nās-tə-kāt\ *vi* -cat-ed; -cat-ing 1: to foretell from signs or symptoms: **PREDICT** 2: **FORESHOW, PRESAGE** *syn* see **FORETELL** — **prog-nos-ti-ca-tive** \-kāt-iv\ *adj* — **prog-nos-ti-ca-tor** \-kāt-ər\ *n*
prog-nos-ti-ca-tion \('præg-nās-tə-'kā-shən\ *n* 1: an indication in advance: **FORETELL** 2 a: an act, the fact, or the power of prognosticating: **FORECAST** b: **FOREBODING**
pro-grade \prō-'grād\ *adj* [L *pro-* forward + *gradi* to go: — more at *PRO, GRADE*]: being or relating to orbital or rotational motion of a body that is in the same direction as that of another celestial body <~ orbit of a satellite>
pro-gram or **pro-gramme** \prō-'gram, -grəm\ *n* [F *programme* agenda, public notice, fr. Gk *programma*, fr. *prographēin* to write before, fr. *pro-* before + *graphein* to write] 1 [LL *programma*, fr. Gk]: a public notice 2 a: a brief usu. printed outline of the order to be followed, of the feature or features to be presented, and the persons participating (as in a public exercise, performance, or entertainment) b: the performance of a program: *esp*: a performance broadcast on radio or television 3: a plan or system

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ə abut ʔ kitten ər further a back ă bake ă cot, cart
 ă out ch chin e less ē easy g gift i trip i life
 j joke ŋ sing ō flow ɔ flaw ɔi coin th thin th this
 ũ loot ũ foot y yet yū few yū furious zh vision

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product

cleavage p., a substance resulting from the splitting of a molecule into two or more simpler molecules.

double p., the p. of systolic blood pressure multiplied by the heart frequency; a measure of heart work load. SEE Robinson index.

end p., the final p. in a metabolic pathway.

fibrin/fibrinogen degradation p.'s (FDP), several poorly characterized small peptides, designated X, Y, D, and E, that result following the action of plasmin on fibrinogen and fibrin in the fibrinolytic process.

fission p., an atomic species produced in the course of the fission of a larger atom such as ^{235}U .

natural p.'s, naturally occurring compounds that are end p.'s of secondary metabolism; often, they are unique compounds for particular organisms or classes of organisms.

orphan p.'s, drugs, biologicals, and medical devices (including diagnostic *in vitro* tests) that may be useful in common or rare diseases but which are not considered commercially viable. SYN orphan drugs.

spallation p., an atomic species produced in the course of the spallation of any atom.

substitution p., a p. obtained by replacing one atom or group in a molecule with another atom or group.

pro-duc-tive (prō-dūk'tiv). Producing or capable of producing; denoting especially an inflammation leading to the production of new tissue with or without an exudate. [see product]

pro-el-as-tase (prō-ē-las'tās). The precursor protein of elastase; formed in the pancreas (in vertebrates) and converted to elastase by the action of trypsin.

pro-e-mi-al (prō-ē-mē-āl). SYN prodromal. [L. *prooemium*, fr. G. *prooimion*, prelude]

pro-en-ceph-a-lon (prō-en-sef'ā-lon). SYN prosencephalon.

pro-en-keph-a-lin (prō-en-kef'ā-lin). A precursor protein that contains several enkephalin sequences. Cf. propiocortin.

pro-en-zyme (prō-en'zīm). The precursor of an enzyme, requiring some change (usually the hydrolysis of an inhibiting fragment that masks an active grouping) to render it active; e.g., pepsinogen, trypsinogen, profibrolysin. SYN zymogen.

pro-e-ryth-ro-blast (prō-ē-rith'rō-blast). SYN pronormoblast.

pro-e-ryth-ro-ocyte (prō-ē-rith'rō-sīt). The precursor of an erythrocyte; an immature red blood cell with a nucleus.

pro-es-tro-gen (prō-es'trō-jen). A substance that acts as an estrogen only after it has been metabolized in the body to an active compound.

pro-es-trum (prō-es'trūm). SYN proestrus.

pro-es-trus (prō-es'trūs). The period in the estrus cycle preceding estrus, characterized by the growth of the graafian follicles and physiologic changes related to estrogen production. SYN proestrus.

pro-fen-a-mine hy-dro-chlo-ride (pro-fen'ā-mēn). SYN ethopropazine hydrochloride.

Profeta, Giuseppe, Italian dermatologist, 1840-1910. SEE P.'s law.

pro-fi-bri-nol-y-sin (prō'fi-bri-nol'i-sin). SEE plasmin.

pro-fi-lac-tin (prō-fil-ak'tin). A complex of actin and profilin. Cf. profilin.

pro-file (prō'fil). 1. An outline or contour, especially one representing a side view of the human head. SYN norma [NA]. 2. A summary, brief account, or record. [It. *profilo*, fr. L. *pro*, forward, + *filum*, thread, line (contour)]

biochemical p., a combination of biochemical tests usually performed with automated instrumentation upon admission of a patient to a hospital or clinic.

biophysical p., technique for evaluating fetal status using fetal heart rate monitoring and ultrasound assessment of amniotic fluid volume, fetal movement, and fetal breathing motion.

facial p., (1) the outline form of the face from a lateral view; (2) the sagittal outline form of the face.

personality p., (1) a method by which the results of psychological testing are presented in graphic form; (2) a vignette or brief personality description.

test p., a combination of laboratory tests usually performed by automated methods and designed to evaluate organ systems of patients upon admission to a hospital or clinic.

urethral pressure p., the continual recording of pressure through a hole in the side of a small catheter as it is pulled (at a constant rate while either water or a gas is infused through the hole) from a point within the bladder, through the vesical neck and down the entire urethra; a form of resistance measurement which gives a tracing indicative of the functional length of the urethra and the points of maximal urethral resistance.

pro-fi-lin (prō-fil'in). A small protein that binds to monomeric actin (thus becoming profilactin), preventing premature polymerization of actin.

pro-fi-lom-e-ter (prō'fi-lom'ē-ter). An instrument for measuring the roughness of a surface, e.g., of teeth.

pro-fla-vine (hem-i)sul-fate (prō-flā'vin, -vën). The neutral sulfate of 3,6-diaminoacridine; a compound closely allied to acriflavine, having similar antiseptic properties.

pro-for-mi-phèn (prō-för'mi-fen). SYN phenprobamate.

pro-fun-da (prō-fün'dā). The deep one; a term applied to structures (muscles, nerves, veins, and arteries, etc.) which lie deep in the tissues, especially when contrasted with a similar, more superficial (sublimis) structure. [L. fem. of *profundus*, deep]

pro-fun-dus (prō-fün'dūs) [NA]. Situated at a deeper level in relation to a specific reference point. Cf. superficialis. SYN deep [L.]

pro-fu-sion (prō-fyū'zhñ). A score reflecting the number of visible lesions in a region on chest radiographs of individuals with pneumoconiosis. SEE International Labour Organization Classification. [L. *profusio*, a pouring forth, fr. *profundo*, to pour forth]

pro-ga-bide (prō'gā-bid). (4-[[[(4-chlorophenyl), 5-fluoro-2-hydroxyphenyl] methylene]amino]-butyramide; an anticonvulsant which is a lipid-soluble derivative of the amidated form of aminobutyric acid (GABA) that, unlike γ-aminobutyric acid (GABA) itself, is able to cross the blood-brain barrier. Once inside the brain the drug is converted to several metabolites, some of which are active forms of GABA or related compounds which act on GABA receptors to increase inhibition in the brain.

pro-gas-trin (prō-gas'trin). Precursor of gastric secretion in the mucous membrane of the stomach.

pro-gē-nia (prō-jē'nē-ā). SYN prognathism. [pro- + L. *gena*, cheek]

pro-ge-ni-ta-lis (prō-jen-i-tā'lis). On any of the exposed surfaces of the genitalia. [L. prefix *pro-*, before, in front of, + *genitalia*, pertaining to the reproductive organs, fr. *gigno*, to bear]

pro-gen-i-tor (prō-jen'i-ter, -tōr). A precursor, ancestor, one who begets. [L.]

prog-e-ny (proj'ē-nē). Offspring; descendants. [L. *progenies*, fr. *progigno*, to beget]

pro-ge-ria (prō-jēr'ē-ā) [MIM*176670]. A condition in which normal development in the first year is followed by gross retardation of growth, with a senile appearance characterized by dry wrinkled skin, total alopecia, and bird-like facies; genetics unclear. SYN Hutchinson-Gilford disease, Hutchinson-Gilford syndrome, premature senility syndrome. [pro- + G. *gēras*, old age]

p. with cataract, p. with microphthalmia, SYN *dyscéphalia mandibulo-oculofacialis*.

pro-ges-ta-tion-al (prō-jes-tā'shñ-āl). 1. Favoring pregnancy; conducive to gestation; capable of stimulating the uterine changes essential for implantation and growth of a fertilized ovum. Referring to progesterone, or to a drug with progesterone-like properties.

pro-ges-ter-one (prō-jes'ter-ōn). 4-pregnene-3,20-dione; an anti-estrogenic steroid, believed to be the active principle of the corpus luteum, isolated from the corpus luteum and placenta or synthetically prepared; used to correct abnormalities of the menstrual cycle and as a contraceptive and to control habitual abortion. SYN corpus luteum hormone, luteohormone, pregnancy hormone, progestational hormone.

pro-ges-tin (prō-jes'tin). 1. A hormone of the corpus luteum. Generic term for any substance, natural or synthetic, that effects